

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the captioned patent application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of forming and connecting an antenna configured to be implanted in a recipient, ~~antenna to a feedthrough member of a housing, the method comprising the steps of:~~
positioning the feedthrough a feedthrough member relative to an ~~and an antenna template relative to each other;~~
connecting a first portion of at least one electrically conducting wire ~~to said~~ to the feedthrough member;
winding ~~said the at least one~~ wire at least once around the antenna template; and
connecting a second portion of ~~each wire to said~~ the at least one wire to the feedthrough member.
2. (Cancelled)
3. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the ~~step of~~ positioning the feedthrough member and the antenna template relative to each other comprises:
removably mounting the feedthrough member to a workspace member.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the antenna template comprises a cylinder and the wound at least one wire defines a circular locus.
6. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the feedthrough member comprises: first and second portions each configured to be mounted on one or more of the chassis and wall of a housing if an implantable component, ~~a first portion and a second portion, the first and second portions being mountable or mounted in a chassis or wall of the housing.~~
7. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 6, wherein each of the first or second portions have at least one conductive post extending therethrough.

8. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 6, wherein the ~~step of connecting the first portion of each wire~~ the at least one wire to the feedthrough member comprises connecting the first portion of the wire to the first portion of the feedthrough member, and ~~wherein the step of connecting a second portion of each wire~~ the at least one wire to the feedthrough member comprises connecting the second portion of the wire to the second portion of the feedthrough member.

9. (Cancelled)

10. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first portion of the at least one wire comprises an end of the wire.

11. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the second portion of the at least one wire comprises a location along the wire that is distal from the first portion of the at least one wire.

12. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one wire comprises a plurality of wires each ~~more than one wire~~ is connected to the feedthrough member and wound around the antenna template.

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one wire is formed from a biocompatible electrically conductive material.

15. (Currently Amended) The method according to claim 1, wherein the at least one wire is coated with an electrically insulating material.

16. (Currently Amended) The method according to ~~claim 3~~claim 1, further comprising:
removing the ~~formed antenna and the feedthrough member~~ and the at least one wire from the workspace member following ~~completion of winding each wire and~~ connecting the first and second portion of each wire the at least one wire to the feedthrough member.

17. (Previously Presented) The method according to claim 16, further comprising:
encapsulating the housing, feedthrough member and antenna in an electrically insulating material.
18. (Cancelled)
19. (Cancelled)
20. (Cancelled)
21. (Withdrawn) A method of forming a non-linear path of at least a portion of at least one electrically conducting wire extending between a first location and a second location, the method comprising the steps of:
forming a wire path template defining a non-linear path;
winding said wire through said template such that said wire adopts said non-linear path;
and
removing the wire from said template.
22. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 47, wherein the wire path template is removably mounted to a workspace member.
23. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 21, wherein the wire path template is adapted to form an undulating wire path over said portion of the wire.
24. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 23, wherein the wire path template comprises a series of spaced posts mounted to the workspace member that define the path about which the wire is to be wound.
25. (Withdrawn)) A method according to claim 24, wherein the formed wire path is substantially sinusoidal.
26. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 23, comprising the additional step of removably mounting a feedthrough member of a housing to the workspace member.

27. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26, wherein the feedthrough member comprises the first location.
28. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 27, comprising the additional step of connecting the wire to the feedthrough member.
29. (Cancelled)
30. (Cancelled)
31. (Cancelled)
32. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 21, wherein the wire is formed from a biocompatible electrically conductive material.
33. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 21, further comprising the step of: coating the wire with an electrically insulating material.
34. (Cancelled)
35. (Cancelled)
36. (Cancelled)
37. (Cancelled)
38. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 21, further comprising:
encapsulating the feedthrough member and at least some of the wire in an electrically insulating material.
39. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 38, further comprising the step of:
washing and drying the feedthrough member and the wire to render it suitable for implantation.

40. (Cancelled)

41. (Cancelled)

42. (Cancelled)

43. (Withdrawn) A method of forming a device comprised of a predetermined pattern of at least two relatively electrically conductive regions, the method comprising the steps of:

working a sheet of electrically conductive material to remove predetermined portions therefrom to form said two or more discrete relatively conducting regions;

connecting at least one electrically conducting wire to at least one of said at least two or more relatively conducting regions; and

connecting a portion of each wire located distal said conducting regions to a common sacrificial member.

44. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 43, wherein the step of working the sheet includes a step of punching the predetermined portions out of the sheet of electrically conductive material.

45. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 44, wherein the predetermined portions punched out of the sheet are removed and separated from the sheet.

46. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 43, wherein the step of working the sheet includes a step of slicing or cutting the predetermined portions out of the sheet of electrically conductive material.

47. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 43, wherein the step of working the sheet comprises a process of using electrical discharge machining (EDM) or spark erosion to remove said predetermined portions out of the sheet.

48. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 43, wherein the step of connecting each wire to the corresponding relatively conducting regions comprises a step of welding each wire to a respective relatively conducting region.

49. (Cancelled)

50. (Cancelled)

51. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The method according to claim 43~~claim 50~~, wherein a proximal end of each wire is welded to the sacrificial member.

52. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The method according to claim 43~~claim 50~~, wherein the sacrificial member is in the form of a plate.

53. (Cancelled)

54. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 43, wherein each of the wires are individually welded to their respective conductive region and the sacrificial member.

55. (Cancelled)

56. (Withdrawn-Currently Amended) The method according to claim 54~~claim 55~~, wherein each wire is welded to the sacrificial member in a manner that allows ready identification as to which conductive region the wire is extending from.

57. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 56, wherein the proximal ends of the wires are aligned transversely along the sacrificial member.

58. (Cancelled)

59. (Cancelled)

60. (Cancelled)

61. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 48, wherein following the formation of the electrical connection between the wire and the conductive region and/or the sacrificial member, the device undergoes a coating step wherein at least the wires are encapsulated in an electrically insulative material.

62. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 61, wherein the coating step comprises passing the device through a parylene coater so as to coat at least parts of the device with a suitable layer of parylene.

63. (Withdrawn) The method according to claim 62, wherein the electrically conductive regions are masked to prevent their coating with parylene.

64. (Cancelled)

65. (Cancelled)

66. (Cancelled)

67. (Cancelled)

68. (New) The method of claim 1, wherein the feedthrough member is configured to provide a hermetically sealed electrical connection through a housing of an implantable component.